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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on June 7, 2004, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 16, 25, 31, 37, 53, 62 and 67 are herein amended. Claims 24, 36, 61 and 70 are herein cancelled. Claims 1-23, 25-35, 37- 60 and 62-69 are now pending in this Application. Claims 1-15, 26-30, 38-52 and 63-66 have been indicated as being in condition for allowance. Claims 1, 16, 26, 31, 38, 53, 63 and 67 are independent claims and the remaining claims are dependent claims. A version of the claims containing markings to show the changes made is included hereinabove. Applicants believe that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. A notice to this affect is respectfully requested.

Claims 19-25, 34-37, 56-62 and 69 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 16-18, 31-33, 53-55, 67 and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No 6,088,702 to Plantz et al. (hereinafter Plantz) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,128,619 to Fogarasi et al. (hereinafter Fogarasi). Claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 24, claim 24 has been cancelled, and claim 25 has been amended to depend from amended claim 16. Claim 31 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 36, claim 36 has been cancelled, and claim 37 has been amended to depend from amended claim 31. Claim 53 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 61, claim 61 has been cancelled, and claim 62 has been amended to depend from amended claim 53. Claim 67 has been amended to include the eliminations of claim 70 and claim 70 has been cancelled. Since claims 24, 36, 61 and 70 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims the amendment to independent claims 16, 31, 53, and 67 to

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include the limitations of the allowable dependent claims is believed to make independent claims 16, 31, 53, and 67 allowable. Claims 17-23 and 25 depend from claim 16, claims 32-35 and 37 depend from claim 31, claims 54-60 and 62 depend from claim 53, and claim 68 and 69 depend from claim 67, and all are believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which his believed allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 16-18, 31-33, 53-55, 67 and 68 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Plantz in view of Fogarasi is believed to have been overcome.

Claim 70 was objected to as containing a typographical error in claim dependency numbering. As discussed above, claim 70 has been cancelled. Accordingly, the objection to claim 70 is believed to have been overcome.

In view of the above, the Examiner's objection and rejections are believed to have been overcome placing claims 16-23, 25, 31-35, 37, 53-60, 62 and 67-69 in condition for allowance with claims 1-15, 26-30, 38-52, and 63-66.

If the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office deems a fee necessary, this fee may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 50-0901.

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If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 366-9600, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,



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